An environmental survey laboratory located outside the exclusion zone collects samples of food, water and other relevant samples to estimate the dose, if any, to members of the public.

The safety features of the reactor and the operation as per the technical specifications ensures that nuclear accidents are entirely unlikely. An emergency plan is also in place to mitigate the consequences of any accident, in the event that it should occur.

Stay of Karmapa in India

2335. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow Karmapa Dorji, who escaped from Tibet, to stay in India;

(b) whether the Dalai Lama has pleaded on the above lines and several other representations have also been received in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji, recognised by his supporters as the 17th Gyalwa Karmapa, arrived in Dharamsala from Tibet on January 5,2000. His Holiness the Dalai Lama has publicly stated that Lama Ugyen Thinley Dorji would like to stay in India and study. Representations, have been received from his supporters regarding his continued stay in India. Representations have also been received against his continued stay in India. The matter requires careful study taking into account all relevant factors.

France's support to get permanent membership in Security Council

† 2336. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether France has made an offer to support the claim and efforts of India to get the permanent membership of Security Council;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.